(1) Mandavi District TB Association, Mandavi, Kutch.

(2) Darbad Shri Gopaldas Desai, Anti-TB Clinic, Kaira, Distt. Anand.

(3) Bhartiya Arogya Nichi TB Clinic. Patan, District Mehsana.

(4) Tuberculosis Relief Organisation, Seth Jhagabhani Chest Clinic Compound, Astodia Darwaja, Ahmedabad.

(c) and (d) Anti-TB drugs are provided free of cost to voluntary organisations as per availability.

Steps to deal with the Problem of Blindness

2599. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problem of blindness in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to provide proper treatment to the people suffering from blindness and other eye diseases; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Some of the steps taken by the Government to provide eye care facilities to needy people are as under:—

(1) Strengthening of Ophthalmic infrastructure,

(2) Training of Ophthalmic manpower,

(3) Establishment of Distt. Blindness Control Societies,

(4) Expanding coverage to rural and tribal areas,

(5) Creating awareness about the eye care among the masses,

(6) Revising the pattern of assistance to States/UTs and NGOs,

(7) Increasing financial outlay in the annual budget, and

(8) Strengthening the monitoring of Eye Care activities at the Central, State and District level.

Criteria for appointment of non-official Directors on Board of Punjab & Sind Bank

2600. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) criteria/guidelines being followed while appointing non-official directors on Board of Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB);

(b) names of non-official directors on PSB's Board;

(c) details of meetings held by present Board, meeting-wise with important decisions taken by it and contribution by said non-official directors in these decisions;

(d) whether said directors or their relatives are availing any loan/advance facilities from PSB; if so, details thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose revamping of said Board in near future and also to induct directors from North-Eastern States; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The non-official directors on the boards of Punjab & Sind Bank have been appointed in accordance with the criteria and procedure prescribed in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 and the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1980.

(b) The names of the non-official directors on the board of directors of Punjab & Sind Bank are indicated below:—

1. Shri Kamal Kishore Gupta
2. Shri Vivek Mehra
3. Shri Norbu Barongpa
4. Shri Rapolu Jayaprakash
5. Shri R.L. Chaudhary